

Trail Journeys

Clyde, Dunedin, Queenstown

Otago Rail Trail & Bike Tours



The Central Otago Rail Trail is an iconic multi-day bike ride along a disused railway line amongst historic gold mining villages and tiny rural settlements. It has grown to be the best known of New Zealand's Great Rides. Ride over historic viaducts, through dark (but not too long) tunnels and stop along the way at small country hotels for scones or a beer, enjoy comfort in the evening at a mixture of Victorian cottages, farm houses or boutique lodges. The full trail runs between Clyde and Middlemarch for 152 kilometres but you can also opt for shorter 1 or 2 day rides. Trail Journeys will assist you with full itinerary planning for a New Zealand biking holiday, guided or independent and supported. Generally riders start from either Clyde or Middlemarch.

Trail Journeys is a family owned and operated business providing all the services associated with bike touring including bike hire, transport, luggage transfer, accommodation bookings and friendly knowledgeable guides. Their hire bikes are specifically designed with Avanti for reliability and comfort on the Trail. With depots at both ends of the trail, a large fleet of vans and buses and experienced drivers and guides they can provide personal service for all group sizes and trips.



Taste The Trail - Otago Central Rail Trail One Day Tour

If you only have limited time to spare you can still see and enjoy some of the best parts of the Otago Central Rail Trail. The Poolburn Gorge section is regarded as one of the most spectacular areas on the trail. Meet at Clyde then Trail Journeys will take you to the start of your adventure. The ride is unguided but Trail Journeys will provide you with bikes and everything you need to ensure a great day out. You ride through the Poolburn Gorge featuring two tunnels and two viaducts all set in a secluded rocky gorge and on to Omakau where you will stop for lunch. After lunch back on the bikes to cycle the remainder of the trail through Chatto Creek (option to be picked up from here if requested) and then Alexandra and back to the our office in Clyde. Alternatively take the slightly longer but very scenic Clutha River Track back to Trail Journeys. Minimum distance cycled: 30km, mostly downhill, maximum distance is 58km.

Departs 9.30am from Clyde | Duration 8 hours

Earlier departure from Queenstown.

Roxburgh Gorge Explorer

This 1 day cycle adventure on the Roxburgh Gorge Trail not only has some amazing cycling but also includes a fun and informative jet boat ride on the Clutha River from Doctors Point to Shingle Creek. Cycling on the Roxburgh Gorge Trail is quite a bit steeper than the Railtrail therefore prepare yourself for some climbs and downhills. Although the trail is a bit more challenging, the views and scenery make it well worth the extra effort. The entire trail is able to be ridden but in some cases, for those not comfortable or experienced to riding hills the option of pushing some of the steeper sections is advisable. e-Bike option available.

From Roxburgh Dam lookout you will connect with the start of the Roxburgh Gorge Trail and make your way to the Shingle Creek Boat Ramp. Here you will meet up with your boat operator who transfers you through to Doctors Point. Relax on board the boat while you take in the stunning scenery and history of the area. Disembark at Doctors Point where you continue on your cycle adventure through to Alexandra. In Alexandra, clients can carry on the Railtrail to our office in Clyde, or take the scenic, peaceful River Track back to Trail Journeys (an additional 8kms).

Departs 9.30am from Clyde | Duration 8 hours

Earlier departure from Queenstown.

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Additional Information

Includes bike hire (mountain or comfort hybrid bikes), transport as indicated and light snack before departure.

Transfers from Queenstown or Dunedin can be arranged at extra cost.

Minimum group size of 2 people.



Directions

The Otago Central Rail Trail runs between Clyde and Middlemarch. The township of Clyde is located 1 hour's drive from Queenstown and Middlemarch is located 1 hour's drive from Dunedin.

The Taieri Gorge Train operates most days from Dunedin to Middlemarch or Pukerangi (just outside of Middlemarch) and return and is a great way to relax and reflect on your trip once you have finished cycling in Middlemarch.

Terms

CHILD POLICY Family Friendly.

CANCELLATION see website for full conditions | cancellation by Trail Journeys due to weather or other reasons Full Refund

SEASON Open year round

CHRISTMAS Closed Christmas Day

Recommendations

Trail Journeys also offers a [4 day/3 Night Luxury Independent Tour](#)

Accommodation in this area

- [Arrowtown House](#)
- [Fletcher Lodge](#)
- [The Dairy](#)
- [Olivers](#)
- [Mt Rosa Lodge](#)
- [Pitches Store](#)